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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
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| 08/862,298 | 05/22/97 | SHINOZAKI | N P353-7020 |

25M1/1128
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, H

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
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2511

DATE MAILED: 11/28/97

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
08/862,298

Applicant(s)
NAOHARU SHINOZAKI

Examiner
Hien Nguyen

Group Art Unit
2511



- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire THREE month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☒ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☒ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Art Unit:

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

2. Figures 1A-1D, 2 and 5 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g).

Specification

3. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.
4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
 - In page 6, line 30, "resistor" should be "register".
 - In page 9, lines 15-32, "rgwz" should be "RGWZ".

Appropriate correction is required.

5. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Art Unit:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6. Claims 2-4 and 6-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

- In claims 2 and 6 , lines 3-7, the recitation of “ a first circuit for selecting one of predetermined N-1 operation modes ... a second circuit for selecting , based on logic operation (?) ... selected” is misdescriptive and incomplete for omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements. See MPEP § 2173.05(l). The omitted elements are: What are the N-1 predetermined modes?. What are the elements to perform a logic operation?.

- In claims 3 and 7, lines 3-6, the recitation of “comprises N-1 signal lines connecting first and second circuit “ is unclear. For example, if N=2 , is it true to have (2-1=1) signal line. Further the recitation of “located in a proximity of ... internal circuit or within ... circuit” is indefinite. The phrases “in a proximity” and “or” the like” render the claim render the scope of the claim unascertainable.

- In claims 4 and 8, the recitation of “a third... fourth... fifth circuit” is misdescriptive. Where is the first and second circuit?.

- In claim 7, “said internal circuit” lacks of antecedent basis.

7. Claims 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. See MPEP

Art Unit:

§ 2173.05(l). The omitted step are: the method of selecting, detecting , storing ... using *only an input signal (one ?)*. Is it not unclear how to achieve all the functions from one input signal ?.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

9. Claims 1 and 5 , as understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,984,216 issued to Toda et al.

Toda et al. Fig. 3 disclose a semiconductor device having an input signal (RAS), a selection circuit (15) for selecting one operation mode from a plurality modes, an internal circuit (17) for operating in an operation mode selected by said selection circuit.

Regarding claim 5, a core circuit is memory cells included in DRAM.

Conclusion

10. No art rejection is applied to claims 2-4 and 6-11 at this time since the scope is indefinite and no search could be conducted.


Art Unit:

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Konishi et al.(5,384,745), Miyamoto(5,111,433), Parris (5,430,680),
Kim(5,515,331).

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hien Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-4888.


DAVID C. NELMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2500

H. Nguyen 

November 20, 1997